

**Claims**

1. A catheter assembly comprising a container assembly, said container assembly comprising at least one catheter element, which has a proximal end adapted for insertion in a urinary canal and an opposite distal end, the container assembly further comprising a container with a cavity adapted to accommodate at least a proximal section of said catheter element, said catheter assembly further comprising a catheter handle adapted to be interlocked with said catheter element, the handle comprising a sleeve section adapted to surround a portion of said container *characterized* in that said catheter handle is adapted to be separated from said catheter element and from said container.
2. A catheter assembly according to claim 1, wherein said catheter handle is adapted to be attached to said container assembly.
- 15 3. A catheter assembly according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said catheter handle is shorter than said container assembly or said catheter element.
4. A catheter assembly according to any of the preceding claims, wherein a distal section of said catheter element has at least one protruding part and wherein a proximal compartment of said cavity is adapted to accommodate a proximal section of said catheter, said proximal compartment having a distal opening zone with exclusion means adapted to exclude said distal section of said catheter element from entering said proximal compartment.
- 25 5. A catheter assembly according to claim 4, wherein said exclusion means comprises a radially inwardly extending protrusion in the cavity.
6. A catheter assembly according to claim 4 or 5, wherein at least a part of said distal opening zone is flexible.
- 30 7. A catheter assembly according to any of the preceding claims, further comprising a lubricating medium.
8. A catheter assembly according to any of the preceding claims, wherein at least a portion of said catheter element has a hydrophilic coating.

9. A catheter assembly according to any of the preceding claims, wherein said container assembly comprises sealing means for sealing said cavity.

10. A method for preparing a catheter device, said method comprising the steps of:

- 5        a) providing a catheter assembly comprising a container assembly, said container assembly comprising a catheter element, which has a proximal end adapted for insertion in a urinary canal and an opposite distal end, the container assembly further comprising a container with a cavity adapted to accommodate at least a proximal section of said catheter element and a catheter handle comprising a sleeve section adapted to surround a portion of said container,
- 10      b) detaching the catheter handle from the container assembly,
- c) connecting the catheter handle to the catheter element,
- d) removing the catheter element from the container.